



11:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 1, 2023

Preparation for Worship

Jesus comes to us in the form of the beggar, of the dissolute human child in ragged clothes, asking for help. He confronts you in every person that you meet. As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbor, as the one through whom God calls you.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Voluntary

Noël en Musette

Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694-1772)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Introit

Love Came Down at Christmas

David Ashley White
(b. 1944)

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angel gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus,
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and neighbor,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

— Christina Rossetti (1885)

✦ Opening Sentences

✦ Hymn 143 [\(see page 9\)](#)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

✦ Prayer of Confession

Great Redeemer,
 Few among us inflict terror or violence upon our neighbor
 on the same scale as Herod,
 but we are no better than Herod.
 Children in our nation lack safe housing,
 the right to quality education,
 and access to food and clean water.
 Families inside our borders fear
 those who have sworn to protect them.
 We deserve the condemnation of Herod,
 but in humility, we ask for the mercy only you can offer, O God.
 Forgive our indifference to suffering.
 Provoke us to demand better for the vulnerable and marginalized,
 that in serving the refugee, poor, and oppressed,
 we will serve you, our Lord.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ Response

Jacques Berthier

Canon—4 voices

1. Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

2.

3. Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

4.

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

✦ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Conversation with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

O.T. pg. 693

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

N.T. pg. 2

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Refusing Consolation

Keatan King

silence and stillness

✦ Hymn 154 [\(see page 10\)](#)

Jesus Entered Egypt

KING'S WESTON

Offering

Offertory Anthem

New Year

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

Turn your eyes to the light;
cast away the works of darkness, let them go:
turn your eyes to the light.
Turn your face to the sun;
feel the warmth, the hope of new beginnings with each new year.
The light was always there, if we could but see it;
and warmth was in the air, if we'd known how to feel.
Turn your eyes to the light, turn your face to the sun:
new light, new hope, new year.

Turn your ears to the sound;
somewhere near, a voice is calling: hear the news,
turn your ears to the sound.
Turn your heart to the love;
Christ is come to bring the world new life, to bring new life.
The voice is always there, if the world will hear it;
and love is always there, if you search your heart.
Turn your ears to the sound, turn your heart to the love:
new life, new love, new year.

New life, and love, and light, and hope, this good New Year.

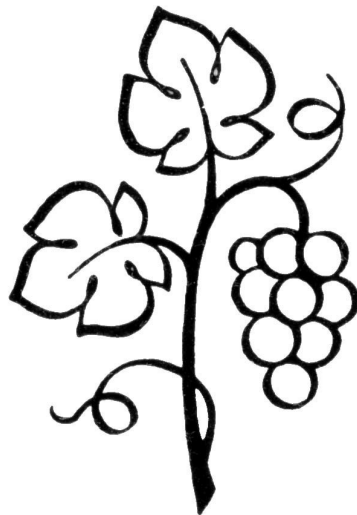
— words by John Rutter

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

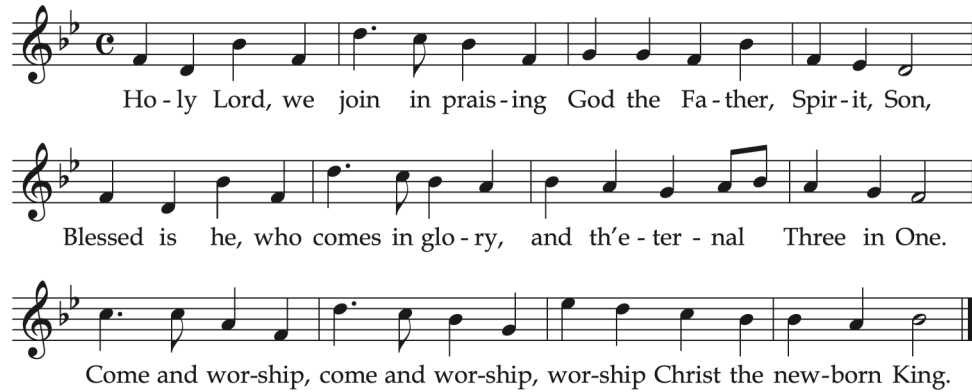
Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O God...
...who sing forever to the glory of your name:



Blessed are you, O Lord our God, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ...
...great is the mystery of faith:



Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit...
...one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for Thine is the Kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread and the Sharing of God's Gifts

Anthem

Ecce novum

Ola Gjelo
(b. 1978)

<i>Ecce novum gaudium</i>	Behold! A new joy!
<i>ecce novum mirum</i>	Behold! A new wonder!
<i>Virgo parit filium</i>	A Virgin bears a son,
<i>quae non novit virum</i>	though she knew not a man,
<i>sed ut pyrus pyrum</i>	as the pear-tree bears the pear,
<i>gleba fert papyrus</i>	and the flourishing papyrus brings
<i>florens lilium</i>	the lily from the soil.
<i>ecce quod natura</i>	See how nature
<i>mutat sua iura</i>	changes her laws!
<i>virgo parit pura</i>	A pure virgin bears
<i>Dei filium</i>	the son of God!

— *Piae Cantiones* (1582)

Prayer after Communion

✦ Charge and Blessing

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Voluntary

Noël sur les Jeux d'Anches

Louis-Claude Daquin

SERVING TODAY**Liturgists**

Keatan King, John Wurster, Omar Rouchon

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers this morning are given by Russell & Caryn Bahruth to the glory of God and in honor of CJ Miller, in the month of her 97th year, without whose voice St. Philip and Central churches would not have merged, and so many lives would not be enriched by the Central Endowment Fund.

WORSHIP NOTES

To receive communion, please come forward via the center aisle, receive a piece of bread, and take a small cup of grape juice. Gluten-free bread is also available. You may return to your pew via the side aisles. Those with difficulty coming forward may receive communion in their seats by signaling the servers. Because the table of Jesus Christ is open to all, everyone is welcome to receive communion today.

An additional offering is received when communion is celebrated. Our beneficiaries for the January Communion Offering will be La Mision Benefactora Clinica Bethesda and El Centro Educativo Moises Saenz, our Mission Partners in the Yucatan supported by Rev. Pablo Estrella and his family. The programs provide education and medical assistance to the surrounding community, whose needs were great during the COVID-19 pandemic and are greater still as the world emerges slowly from its consequences. Many of the patients are out of work and suffer from illnesses that require treatment. With no resources to pay, the clinic's low cost/free services are lifesaving. The school trains its students to develop and apply their skills in their personal, family and social formation through a quality education based on Christian principles that honor God. You may also make a secure contribution through [MyStPhilip](#) or by sending a check to the church office, with "Communion Offering" in the memo line.

Today's worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the [saintphilip.net](#) homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. (For temporary administrative reasons only, this fund displays as Negro Spirituals/UNICEF.) Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 63:7-9 — *The people were saved not by an angel, but the Lord's presence.*
- Psalm 148 - *Let everything in the whole creation praise the name of the Lord.*
- Hebrews 2:10-18 — *Jesus calls us brothers and sisters; he became human to save us.*
- Matthew 2:13-23 — *Joseph and Mary flee to Egypt to escape persecution from Herod.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

We give thanks for the birth of Micah Guy Goodman, son of Michelle and James Goodman, grandson of Guy and Melissa Aldrich on December 6, 2022.

Janet Davis and family upon the death of her husband, Don, who died December 19. A memorial service is scheduled for January 14 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Philippians and their families – Bill Lee; Barbara Runge; Beverly Hudson; Susan Huffman; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Renee Wright; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Tom Harmon – cousin of Elizabeth Duerr; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Betsy Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Jann Everhart – sister-in-law of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash – brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Donna Harris – sister of Joyce Fugit; Alma Fonseca – mother of Angelina Fonseca; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Mac Wilson – father of Butch Wilson; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Alan Rowe – father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Ellen MacDonald; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Sondra Sullivan; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians – Jerry Boldra – friend of Bonnie Moore; Carol Gilliland – friend of Orlean Anderson; Jackie Childers – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Clayton Amacker – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email: deacons@saintphilip.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

GODLY PLAY (Age 3-Kindergarden) – Room 104

ELEMENTARY (Grades 1-5) – Room 105

YOUTH (Grades 6-12) – Room 205

SPa (St. Philip Adults) – Room 200 – All adults of any age are welcomed to participate - grab some coffee and join us. There is no need to prepare or purchase materials for class, so come as you are able!

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – This class meets from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Jan. 8** - "The State of St. Philip Presbyterian Church - Looking Back at 2022, Looking Forward to 2023" presented by Rev. Dr. John Wurster. **Jan. 15** - "The State of the Presbyterian Church USA - The State of Presbytery of New Covenant" Come learn about the General Assembly Actions from the 225th. General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA July 2022 meeting. Rev. Lynn Hargrove - General Presbyter + Stated Clerk for Administrative Process "As we seek to live into our new mission and vision statements, we will be looking at who we are and what we do as a presbytery." Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204 – We have resumed our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings with the story of Elijah's confrontation with Ahab and Jezebel in Dr. Robert Alter's Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** to

deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster has returned. The morning class, meeting at 9:30 a.m., is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. The afternoon class, meeting at 3:30 p.m., is Zoom only. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP – Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office conference room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Jan. 12** we will discuss *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN—All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcome@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints – 2nd Mon. of each month
@ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle – 3rd Sun. of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle – 1st Thurs. of each month
@ 7:00 p.m.



Save the dates for the 26th annual **DUERR LECTURE SERIES**, Feb. 26, 27, and 28. Speaker for the series will be Dr. Rachel Baard, Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics and Director of the Master of Arts in Public Theology

Program at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA. Topic for the lectures is “Who is Jesus Christ for us Today?” Dr. Baard will preach for the morning worship service, 11:00 a.m., and present lectures each evening at 7:00 p.m. Lectures are available in person or by live-stream. Check the web page for more information: www.saintphilip.net.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—Join the discussion on Zoom **Jan. 3** with St. Philip’s Tuesday social justice group! We continue our study of *Good White Racist?* by Kerry Connelly. We will be discussing chapters 6 (Justifying ourselves, or “But Black people owned slaves!”) and 7 (White people’s posse, or You just *think* you need to call the police). We meet each first Tuesday, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come even if you haven’t done the reading; the discussion is always timely and thought-provoking. To join us, just email with *PSJ* in the subject line to receive information about the meeting to:

welcome@saintphilip.net.

SECOND SUNDAYS

The Sacrament of Baptism

You are invited to join our church family for a time on intergenerational learning and fellowship at Second Sundays. On **Jan. 8**, we will gather to explore baptism with activities and treats for all ages. Come join us at **9:45 a.m. in the Gathering Area** - all are welcome!



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphilip.net.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,
we seek to be an inclusive,
grace-filled community,
engaging the world with open minds,
willing hands and generous hearts.

WE LONG
for deeper faith,
vibrant hope
and boundless love
for everyone, every day, everywhere.

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

A Hearing Loop is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your "T switch" to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. **LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY'S HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

Contributions, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

Hymn 143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
 you have seen his na - tal star:
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."

TEXT: Stanzas 1-3, James Montgomery, 1816, 1825; stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857
 MUSIC: Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE
 8.7.8.7.8.7

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Hymn 154

Jesus Entered Egypt

KING'S WESTON



1 Je - sus en - tered E - gypt flee - ing Her - od's hand,
 2 Je - sus was a mi - grant liv - ing as a guest
 3 Je - sus cross - es bor - ders with the wan - dering poor,



liv - ing as an a - lien in a for - eign land.
 with the friends and strang - ers who could of - fer rest.
 search - ing for a ref - uge, for an o - pen door.



Far from home and coun - try with his fam - i - ly,
 Do we hold wealth light - ly so that we can share
 Do our words and ac - tions an - swer Je - sus' plea:



was there room and wel - come for this ref - u - gee?
 shel - ter with the home - less, and a - bun - dant care?
 "Give the low - ly wel - come, and you wel - come me"?

Human beings create divisions for many political, social, economic, and military reasons, but God is no respecter of the boundaries we erect. Jesus taught us to look for and respect the image of God that can be found in every human being, and to care for "the least of these."

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2007
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925
 Text © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music © 1925 Oxford University Press

KING'S WESTON
 6.5.6.5.D

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Hymn 108

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full
 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom-ised
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Seldom has the wonder of the Incarnation been expressed so beautifully as in this text, created in the era when the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were being codified and mindful of similar theological affirmations. It is set here to a plainchant melody from the late Middle Ages.

TEXT: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 5th cent.;
 trans. John Mason Neale, 1854, alt., and Henry Williams Baker, 1859, alt.
 MUSIC: Plainsong, Mode V; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940
 Music Harm. © 1943, 1961, 1985 Church Pension Fund

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

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